

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES

July 8, 1992

Mr. Douglas A. Poneck Escamilla, Poneck & Perez 310 S. St. Mary's Suite 2201 San Antonio, Texas 78205

OR92-380

Dear Mr. Poneck:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 16148.

The Harlandale Independent School District (the "district") received an open records request for "all documents containing current salaries of auxiliary personnel for Harlandale ISD adopted by District Policies, Administrative Policies or Board adopted policies" including, any "amendments relative to the salary schedule." This office has previously informed you that employee salary information is public information under the Open Records Act. You now express concern about releasing district employees' social security numbers to the public.

Previous determinations of this office, Open Records Decision Nos. 226 (1979) and 169 (1977) at 7-8, copies of which are enclosed, resolve your request. Although social security numbers may be found in documents that are otherwise deemed confidential by law, these numbers in and of themselves do not constitute confidential information. Consequently, you must release the social security numbers.

You state that the district "may have considerable difficulty in separating information from rather voluminous records." You have submitted to this office for review a "Paraprofessional Payroll: 1991 - 1992" which contains each employee's name, social security number, position, date of employment, total years of employment, payment schedules, and overtime rates. All of the information contained in this document consists of public information; there is therefore no

need to separate or remove any of the information in this form. The form must be released in its entirety.

Because case law and prior published open records decisions resolve your request, we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR92-380.

Yours very truly,

Celeste A. Baker

Assistant Attorney General

Celeste a. Baker

Opinion Committee

CAB/RWP/lmm

Ref.: ID# 16148

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Enclosures: Open Records Decision Nos. 226, 169